

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) ~~In a system having application program interface, a method of identifying freeze methods appropriate for a storage object, the~~

A method comprising:

transmitting data to ~~the~~ an application programming interface identifying ~~the~~ a storage object; and

receiving, from the application programming interface, a freeze list with one or more freeze methods appropriate for freezing the storage object, wherein each freeze method includes a measure of quiesce strength.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) A computer-readable medium having program code which, when executed on a computer, implements the method of claim 1.

4. (currently amended) ~~In a system having application program interface, a method of freezing a storage object, comprising:~~

A method comprising:

transmitting data to ~~the~~ an application programming interface identifying ~~the~~ a storage object;

receiving a freeze list with one or more freeze methods appropriate for quiescing the storage object from the application programming interface, wherein each freeze method includes a measure of quiesce strength;

selecting one of the freeze methods; and

issuing a command to the application programming interface to execute the freeze method.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, ~~wherein each freeze method includes a measure of quiesce strength and~~ wherein selecting is a function of quiesce strength.

6. (original) A computer-readable medium having program code which, when executed on a computer, implements the method of claim 4.

7. (currently amended) An application program interface that operates with an application to generate frozen images of a storage object, the interface comprising:
means for receiving data identifying a storage object;
means for returning a freeze list with one or more freeze methods appropriate for freezing the storage object, wherein each freeze method includes a measure of quiesce strength;
means for receiving a selected freeze method associated with the storage object; and
means for returning a frozen image as a function of the selected freeze method.

8. (original) The application program interface of claim 7, wherein the means for receiving data identifying a storage object includes a call which identifies the storage object and provides a list of preferences.

9. (currently amended) An application program interface that operates with an application to generate frozen images of a storage object, the interface comprising:
means for receiving data identifying a storage object; and
means for returning a frozen image of the storage object, wherein the means for returning a frozen image includes means for
transmitting a freeze list having one or more freeze methods appropriate for freezing the storage object, wherein each freeze method includes a measure of quiesce strength, and for

transmitting a frozen image representative of the storage object.

10. (original) The application program interface of claim 9, wherein the means for receiving data identifying a storage object includes a call which identifies the storage object and provides a list of preferences.

A2
11. (currently amended) An application program interface for controlling formation of a frozen image of a storage object, the interface comprising:
a storage object identifier, wherein the storage object identifier identifies the storage object;
a freeze list data structure, wherein the freeze list data structure stores data representing one or more freeze methods appropriate for freezing the storage object;
a freeze method identifier, wherein the freeze method identifier identifies a selected freeze method from the one or more freeze methods, wherein each freeze method includes a measure of quiesce strength; and
a data structure for returning a frozen image corresponding to the selected freeze method.

12. (original) The application program interface of claim 11, wherein the storage object identifier is transferred within a call to the application program interface.

13. (currently amended) An application program interface for controlling quiescing of a storage object, the interface comprising:
a storage object identifier, wherein the storage object identifier identifies the storage object;
a quiesce data structure, wherein the quiesce data structure stores data representing one or more quiesce methods appropriate for quiescing the storage object, wherein each quiesce method includes a measure of quiesce strength; and
a quiesce method identifier, wherein the quiesce method identifier identifies a selected quiesce method from the one or more quiesce methods.

14. (original) The application program interface of claim 13, wherein the application program interface transmits a signal on completion of storage object quiesce.

15. (original) The application program interface of claim 13, wherein the storage object identifier is transferred within a call to the application program interface.

A2
16. (currently amended) An application program interface for controlling quiescing of a storage object, the interface comprising:
means for receiving data identifying a storage object;
means for transmitting a quiesce list having one or more quiesce methods appropriate for quiescing the storage object, wherein each quiesce method includes a measure of quiesce strength; and
means for returning an indication that the storage object is quiesced.

17. (original) The application program interface of claim 16, wherein the means for receiving data identifying a storage object includes a call which identifies the storage object and provides a list of preferences.

18. (currently amended) ~~In a system having application program interface, a method of identifying quiesce methods appropriate for a storage object, the~~

A method comprising:

transmitting data to ~~the~~ an application programming interface identifying ~~the~~ a storage object; and

receiving a quiesce list with one or more quiesce methods appropriate for quiescing the storage object from the application programming interface, wherein each quiesce method includes a measure of quiesce strength.

19. (cancelled)

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end

20. (original) A computer-readable medium having program code which, when executed on a computer, implements the method of claim 18.
